

ABSTRACT

WA-V-213

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 112(116)

1767 (reset 1902)

Dry Run, Maryland vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. 112(116) marks Mason and Dixon's 112th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line, later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. It is an original milestone, quarried and carved in England of oolitic limestone,^{is} in good condition, unaltered, and firmly in place at its original site, preliminarily surveyed in 1765, monumented two years later and reset in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers still defining the West Line. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary, it is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

Magi No.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE, 112th Mile Stone

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. 112 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 116)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the west side of Mercersburg Road/T-654

CITY, TOWN

Dry Run

☒

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 9

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Washington/PA: Franklin

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS N/A

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☐ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE**PUBLIC ACQUISITION****ACCESSIBLE**☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ not applicable☐ NO☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER
state boundary marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Washington County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

WA-V-213 entered 2/24/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE
Maryland

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 112(116) marks Mason and Dixon's 112th horizontal mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. It is an original milestone of 1767, in good condition, unaltered, and at its original site, reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary.

The area here is sparsely settled, rural, sloping farmland much of it in fruit orchards, at the east foothills of ^{heavily forested.} Bear Pond Mountains which rise abruptly a short distance to the west. The site is within Election District 4 of Washington County, Maryland, and Montgomery Township of Franklin County, Pennsylvania; about 1 mile northwest of the crossroads called Dry Run, Maryland; at a point about 1500 feet due west of Mercersburg Road/T-654 at the Line and about 100 feet north of the stream called Dry Run; on a south slope of Kasies Knob in a weedy edge of the Oliver Company orchard (about 1200 feet west-northwest of the tenant farm manager's house). It cannot be seen from any road, but easily from a nearby farm service lane, all seasons, and is protected by the sloping of the site.

The milestone, as with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments, is an embellished oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top. It was quarried and carved in England and originally measured about 12 inches square by about 4 or more feet long, cut to stand about 3 feet high with the base left rough-cut for setting into the ground. The distinguishing decorative features are the vertical fluting with horizontally-fluted margins on all four sides, and the Roman capital letters P on the north side facing Pennsylvania and M on the south side facing Maryland, each V-sunk in the center of a plain shallow circle panel near the top. It continues to stand as reset in 1902: about 1½ feet above the concrete foundation and measures about 12¼ inches on the north and south sides, about 11 inches on the east and west sides. The letters are clear, but the M and its circle panel are chipped; most fluting remains but only bits of margins; there are chips along all edges and top corners (particularly the top northeast corner); no fluting or planes remain on the top; and all surfaces are weathered.

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form for full descriptions of
CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY the original Mason and Dixon monuments and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting them)

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (reset 1902) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~Boulder Architect~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 112(116) is significant on the national and state levels primarily as one of 135 original Mason and Dixon monuments in the thematic group series of some 248 markers still defining their 230.228-mile West Line, the boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The site was preliminarily surveyed in 1765 ^{and} /monumented two years later, where it remains in place, reset more securely in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as one of 48 original monuments marking the present Washington/Franklin-Fulton county boundary (10 crownstones; 38 milestones), No. 112(116) is also significant as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures with a visually identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Clear Spring (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1955 photorev. 1971, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 18, easting 25148, northing 440071

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Washington

STATE Pennsylvania

COUNTY Franklin

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

3/28/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

WA-V-213

MASON EDIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 112 (116)
CLEAR SPRING QUADRANGLE

MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SCALE: 1"=2000'

NW 1/4 WILLIAMSPORT 15' QUADRANGLE

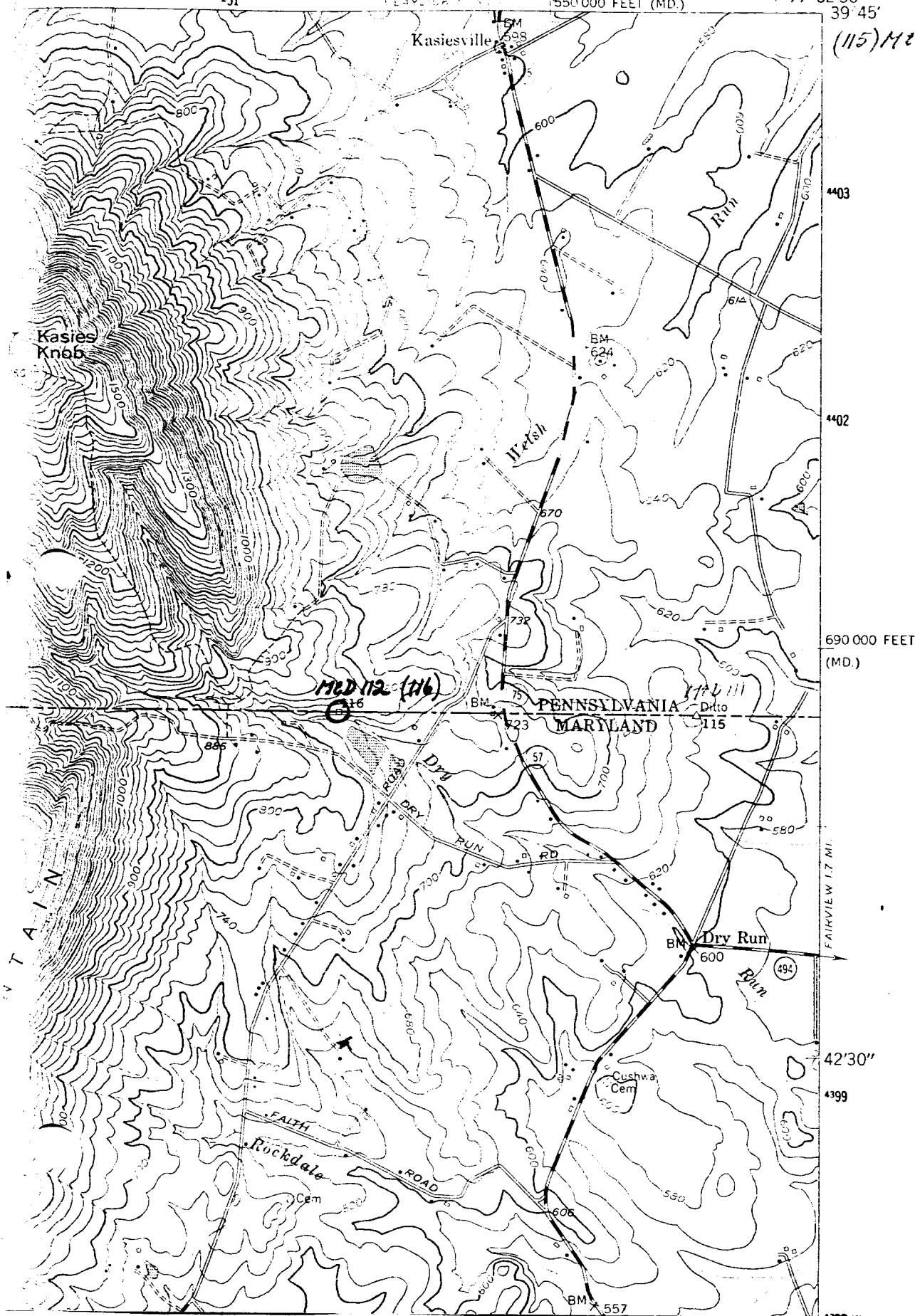
1953 PHOTO REV. 1971

5463 IV SE
(WILLIAMSON)

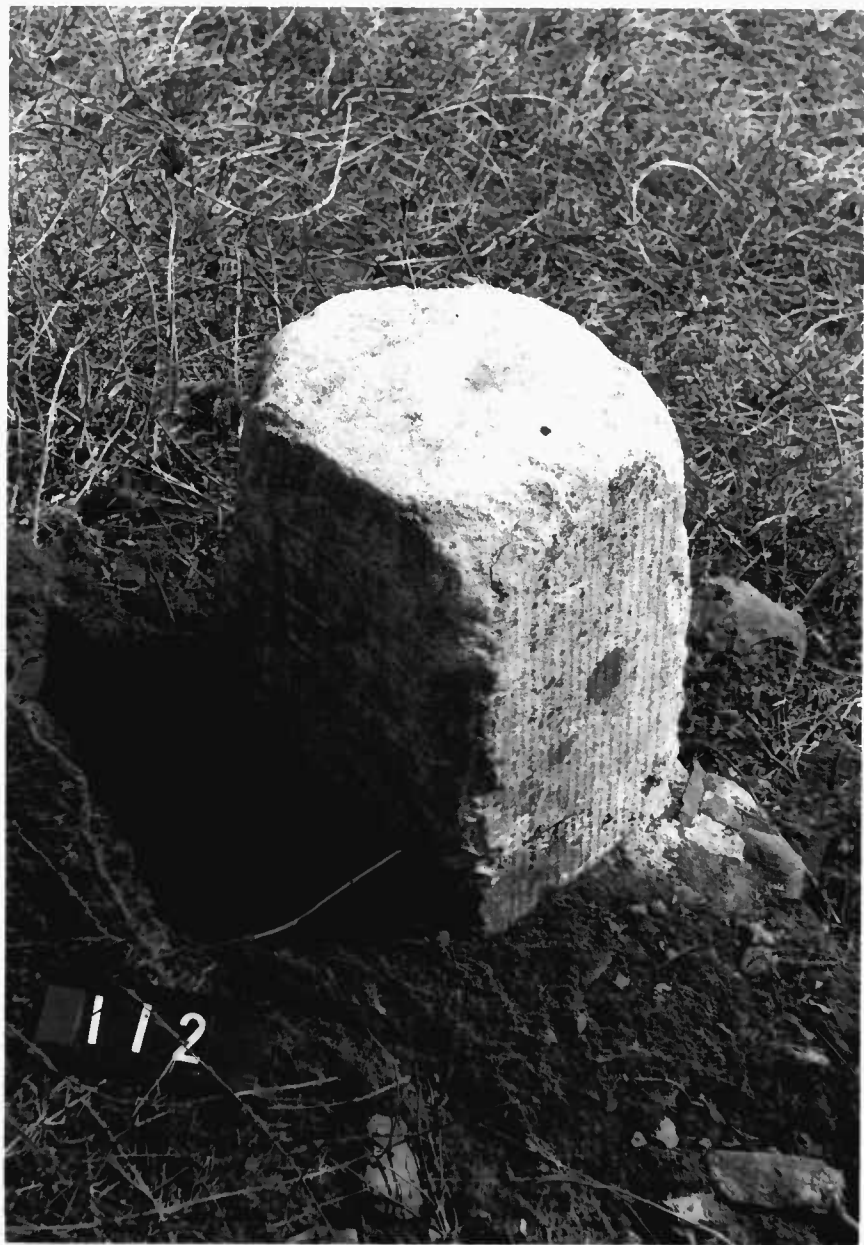
WASHINGTON CO. (18)

77°52'30"
39°45'

(115) MED. CRIT, relocated







112

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD, ORIGINAL (1767)
 NEW YORK (P/1)

PROG. AUC. (P/1) 3/25/61 BY: [initials]